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CIACR 80-13834

[redacted] 3.5(c)

Armando LAMBRUSCHINI
(Phonetic: lahmbroosCHEEnee)

ARGENTINA

Commander in Chief of the Navy; Member, Ruling Junta (since September 1978)

OFFICE OF CENTRAL REFERENCE

MICRO ONLY

Addressed as:
Admiral Lambruschini

Armando Lambruschini has had a significant influence in the Navy since 1974, when he became Chief of the Navy General Staff. He is expected to hold his current position until September 1981. Lambruschini believes that the Argentine government deemphasizes the importance of the Navy and feels that the Army and Air Force tend to side against him in the junta, but he is committed to interservice cooperation in the political process. Lambruschini will have an important role in the junta's selection of a new president later this year. [redacted] 3.5(c)

Lambruschini has frequently expressed his displeasure with the US human rights policy and the detrimental effect it has had on the relation between the US and Argentine Navies. He is particularly critical of the US arms sales policy toward Argentina, but he opposes some within his government who wish to retaliate by increasing economic and military exchanges with the Soviet Union. He would like to see the US Government take positive steps toward reestablishing better relations between the two navies. Lambruschini visited the United States in 1946 on a midshipman's tour. During 1969-70 he was advisor to the Inter-American Defense Board in Washington. He has also traveled to France, East Europe, the Soviet Union, and extensively in Latin America. [redacted] 3.5(c)

Born in 1924, Lambruschini graduated from the Naval Academy in 1946. A line officer and communications specialist, he has an excellent reputation for competence and leadership in staff and command positions. He has

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held all the key Navy positions including Commander of Naval Operating Forces in 1973. 3.5(c)

Lambruschini normally has a low-key, quiet demeanor, and he is not much of a conversationalist. He does, however, speak with authority and assurance. Married to the former Gladys Nevares Bestard, he is the father of a daughter. Another daughter, born in 1963, was killed by a terrorist bomb that also destroyed the family apartment in August 1978. Lambruschini has not fully recovered from the death of his daughter. The Admiral speaks some English.

3.3(b)(1)

5 August 1980

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